

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## ***Do the parents have to be Elks for their children to be Antlers?***

No, the program is open to any youth between ages 12 to 20. Many parents are Members of the Order, though.

## ***Will this take up a lot of time?***

We want the Antlers to become a part of their lives, not take it over. The level of involvement is up to you.

## ***Will there be adult supervision?***

Yes, there is a hand-picked committee of Members and parents working as advisors who provide supervision and support in line with the Elks Youth Supervision Guide.

## ***Is there a cost for membership?***

Each Antlers Lodge has a nominal amount of dues paid by each Antlers member. The amount varies, but it is far less than most other youth organizations.

## ***What about group activities?***

The Antlers often take part in group activities both inside and outside of the Elks Lodge. These activities are usually funded by the Antlers members through fundraising projects. By raising the money themselves, they learn how to become self-reliant.

## ***Will I be able to watch my child participate?***

Of course! In fact, we encourage parental involvement as it can help bring families closer together.

## ***Will there be a safe environment for our children?***

Absolutely, the adult advisors are there to ensure that they are safe at all times, and that they follow the guidelines in the Elks Youth Supervision guidebook.

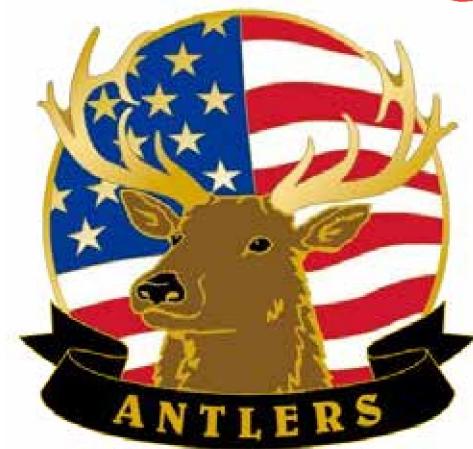
## ***Are all the hours of community service recorded for high school and college requirements?***

Yes, we keep attendance at all events, meetings, and community service projects. A letter of recommendation can be provided that includes this information.

## ***How does my son/daughter join?***

Visit the Elks Lodge and ask to speak with an Antlers advisor about joining.

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks



# ANTLERS PROGRAM

**Charity & Service**

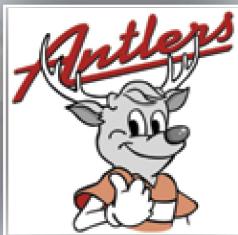
♦  
**Respect for Home & Family**

♦  
**Love of Country**

♦  
**Leadership**

**Elks Care – Elks Share**

## WHAT IS AN ANTLERS LODGE?



The **Antlers** are a youth group program of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. It is an organization that promotes the support of our youth, our veterans, and our communities, and practices the principle of charity. Think of the Antlers as Junior Elks Members.

The Antlers program focuses on teaching our young people about:

- **Patriotism**
- **Respect of parents**
- **Love of home**
- **Good citizenship**
- **Aiding a worthy cause**

## WHAT DO ANTLERS DO?

The Antlers program offers many activities that young people will enjoy, including social sessions, group trips, and other events where they can get together, have fun, and make new friends.

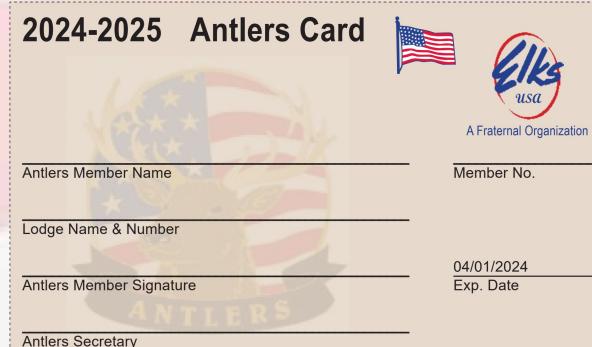
Fun is only a part of the experience. Antlers also learn about how organizations work through their meetings, participate in committee work, and aid a worthy cause in their community by working together. This teaches the members that helping others is what helps make them an important part of the community.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Antlers is open to young men and women between 12 to 20 years of age. They do not have to be related to a Member of the Elks to join, but they must reside in the jurisdiction of a sponsoring Elks Lodge and be a United States citizen. Antlers Members must be of good character and believe in God.

To join the Antlers, prospective members must be proposed by a current member of the Antlers and fill out a proposal for membership. Once approved, and after they have participated in the initiation ceremony and paid their dues, they will receive a membership card.

To join, visit your local Elks Lodge and ask to speak with an Antlers advisor about your child joining. If your child already know an Antlers member, the member can also provide you with a membership proposal form.



## ELKS & ANTLERS

The Antlers program is supervised by an adult Advisory Council who provides guidance for the officers and members of the group. The Advisory Council consists of Elks Members who serve as mentors and foster a safe environment for the youth. The Advisory Council is not intended to run the organization but to provide direction and encouragement to keep the young people on track.

Parental involvement is also welcome, as the success of the Antlers Lodge is closely tied to reinforcement of good character at home, at the Lodge, and at school.

The Antlers will meet at the Elks Lodge on either a weekly or semi-monthly basis, and parents are encouraged to attend the meetings.

The Antlers will often assist or participate in many Elks functions, including Flag Day services, Americanism projects, Drug Awareness programs, Hoop Shoot, and Soccer Shoot. They will also spearhead their own projects, which may include supporting special needs children, food pantries, and local charities. Antlers also can participate in their Elks Lodge's own Community Projects.

The Elks and Antlers both share the same common goals of supporting our communities as well as each other.